Airports Authority of India as a Trade union under its wing *viz* Hind Mazdoor Sabha submitted a Memorandum to the Prime Minister in the matter. The parties shall have to abide by all the safety and security regulations and to obtain necessary clearance from the concerned departments. The contracts for ground handling services at airports will be finalized and awarded to the selected parties only after obtaining due clearances.

Contract for ground handling operations

168. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ground handling operations contracts in International Airports, processed and approved earlier, are facing teething troubles;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for not finalizing and awarding contract;

(c) the details of private players shortlisted earlier indicating their accreditations, past experience, nationality, etc. and whether they had fulfilled all the initial conditionalities, requirements and clearances laid down for contracts by his Ministry;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the terms of contracts and when the same are likely to be finalized and finally awarded?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Subsequent to the notification of the new Airports Authority of India (General Management, Entry for Ground Handling Services) Regulations, 2000, Airports Authority of India have initiated the process of selection of companies for providing ground handling services in a competitive and efficient manner at international airports. The contract for ground handling services at airports will be finalized keeping in view all the requirements/

conditionalities, and awarded to the selected parties after obtaining due clearances.

Development of Biju Patnaik airport at Bhubaneswar

169. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal for development of infrastructure of Biju Patnaik Airport at Bhubaneswar;

(b) if so, the funds earmarked for the purpose in 2000-2001 and 2001-2002;

(c) the amount spent thereon so far year-wise; and

(d) the specific infrastructure developed during that period?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Funds amounting to Rs. 2.4 crores for 2000-2001 and Rs. 1.2 crores for 2001-2002 have been earmarked.

(c) An amount of Rs. 60 lakhs in 2000-2001 and Rs. 15 lakhs in 2001-2002 (upto June, 2001) have been spent.

(d) Construction of new terminal building, taxi track, apron and fire station works have been completed. The work for extension of runway has been held up for want of land by closure of road passing through the area required.